



Interment

Fort Sill National Cemetery
Elgin, Oklahoma
Placement at the Mausoleum will take place at a later date.

Acknowledgement

The family would like to thank all of the doctors and medical staff that have assisted in the care of Bettie's health concerns over the years; the Oklahoma City Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Additionally the family thanks everyone for their prayers, phone calls, cards, personal visits, food offerings and other special gestures during this difficult time. These outward expressions have shown how special Bettie was to everyone. Your thoughtfulness will not be forgotten.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day — and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV)



SERVICES UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
TEMPLE AND SONS FUNERAL DIRECTORS, INC.
2801 North Kelley Avenue
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111
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Celebrating The Life of Bettie Jean James



*Sunrise
June 7, 1947*

*Sunset
July 11, 2019*



*Services
Saturday, July 27, 2019 - 1:00 p.m.
Temple & Sons Funeral Directors, Inc.
Earl M. Temple Memorial Chapel
2801 North Kelley Avenue
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Pastor Brian Campbell (Redeemer Lutheran Church) - Officiating*



Obituary

Bettie Jean James was born to Daniel and Ernestine Clark on June 7, 1947 in Kings, Mississippi. As a pre-teen she moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin and was raised by her Uncle and Aunt, Asberry and Jean Seals. However she still kept in contact with her family from Mississippi who moved to the Long Beach area of California.

In 1965, Bettie graduated from Rufus King High School in Milwaukee. Shortly thereafter, she moved to Oklahoma City to go to X-Ray School at the OU Health Sciences Center (OUHSC). It was in Oklahoma City, that she met the love of her life, Edward, on a blind date. In 1969, she and Edward got married on September 20th. A year later she was pregnant with her first child, Kimberly Karen (Kim). During that time they became members of Redeemer Lutheran Church.

While raising their daughter, Bettie was working at a small hospital and at the Oklahoma City Clinic. A better opportunity became available at Baptist Hospital, so she applied and was hired as an X-Ray Tech.

Always looking to improve herself, she enrolled in the certificate program for Nuclear Medicine Technology at the OUHSC. She finished in 1974 and joined the staff of the Nuclear Medicine Department at Baptist Hospital (now Integris Baptist). It was in this position that she was the tech on call during the first heart transplant in Oklahoma, performed by Dr. Nazih Zuhdi.

In 1978, she and Edward had a son, Kenneth Edward. Even with 2 kids, she never stopped learning. She studied under a local seamstress and soon began making her own clothes which included many casual and formal clothes, as well as her daughter's prom and debutante dresses.

She also developed a passion for running. While being a part of a running club, she ran in the White Rock Marathon, several times, in Dallas, Texas, the Chicago Marathon and many other half marathons throughout the United States. She eventually took up cycling and rode in races including the "Hotter Than Hell" Race held every August in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Although she was very accomplished in her field, she knew that she wanted to earn her bachelor's degree. In 1999, Bettie graduated with a Bachelor's in Health Management. Soon she assumed the role of Lead Technician in the Nuclear Medicine Department. She loved what she did, but didn't like being "on call." So when offered a supervisor position the Cardiovascular Clinic next to Baptist, she took it. She worked there until she retired in 2012 with 36 years of service at Baptist Integris.

The Seals Family held a special place in her heart. She enjoyed going to reunions and connecting with family. Bettie rarely missed a reunion. Eventually, she hosted a reunion in Oklahoma City.

Community service was always important to Bettie. She and Edward along

with a few other couples started a service organization called "JFJ." As a group they traveled to various destinations in the US and abroad and served the Oklahoma City community. In the 90's, Bettie was a board member of Infant Crisis Services. After she retired from Integris, she volunteered at the hospital gift shop.

In April of 1999, she became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. - Oklahoma City Alumnae Chapter. Bettie was thrilled to become a member just like her mother-in-law, Hattie James and her daughter. She took her membership seriously. She immediately jumped in to help in several committees and stayed financial through her last year of life.

Bettie is survived by her husband, Edward, sisters, Barbara and Sandra, brother Anthony, daughter Kimberly See (husband - Rod, grandkids - Kendall and Kamille), son, Kenneth (wife - Simaray, grandkids - Caiden, Sanaa and Kobe), many nieces, nephews and a multitude of friends and former co-workers.

DON'T CRY FOR ME

© Deborah Garcia Gaitan

*Don't cry for me,
I will be okay.
Heaven is my home now,
and this is where I'll stay.*

*Don't cry for me,
I'm where I belong.
I want you to be happy
and try to stay strong.*

*Don't cry for me,
It was just my time,
but I will see you someday
on the other side.*

*Don't cry for me,
I am not alone.
The angels are with me
to welcome me home.*

*Don't cry for me,
for I have no fear.
All my pain is gone,
and Jesus took my tears.*

*Don't cry for me,
This is not the end.
I'll be waiting here for you
when we meet again*



Funeral Liturgy

GATHERING INVOCATION THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Let us pray.
... we glorify you.
C We glorify you.
P ... we praise you.
C We praise you.
P ... we worship you.
C We worship you.
P To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.
C Amen.

"His Eye is On the Sparrow" – sung by Loretta Green

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

READINGS

Psalm 23
John 14: 1-3
Matthew. 11:25-30

RESOLUTIONS AND REMEMBRANCES

Please keep your remarks to no more than two minutes.

SERMON

CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.
C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
C I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Let us pray.
At the end of a petition
P God of mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P One God, now and forever.
C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and we pray as Jesus taught us.
P Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.

"I Bowed on My Knees" – sung by Loretta Greene

COMMENDATION

P Let us go forth in peace,
C in the name of Christ. Amen.

